

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

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SUCCESSFUL AUSTRO-YUGOSLAV NEGOTIATIONS.

In returning the visit made in Belgrade last spring by Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Bruno Kreisky, Yugoslav Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Koca Popovic made an official visit in Vienna from November 24 through November 27.

During his stay in Austria, Popovic was received both by Federal President Dr. Adolf Schaerf and Federal Chancellor Julius Raab.

The following joint communique was issued upon conclusion of talks between Secretary of State Popovic and Foreign Minister Kreisky and State Secretary Dr. Franz Gschnitzer on questions concerning the international situation and the relations between Austria and Yugoslavia:

The talks proceeded in the spirit of mutual understanding and in a friendly atmosphere.

Discussion of the international situation has shown that both countries agree on many points.

Both parties have given expression to the opinion that the maintenance of peace and the lessening of existing international tensions were in the interest of all mankind. International problems should be solved by way of negotiations in spite of the existence of different social and political systems.

The opinion was jointly expressed that an agreement on general and controlled disarmament was one of the most important goals of present policy and that, in this respect, even partial solutions must be considered as progress. As such, in the opinion of the two ministers, might be seen an immediate agreement on the cessation of atomic weapons tests.

The question of economic aid to underdeveloped countries was thoroughly considered. Both parties are of the opinion that further efforts must be undertaken to intensify aid to these countries.

Both parties have confirmed their bond with the principles and goals of the charter of the United Nations and have given expression to the hope that the United Nations will be increasingly active in the solution of international problems.

Increase in Goods Exchange.

The Republic of Austria — in fulfilment of obligations under Article 25 of the State Treaty — has freed the property

(Continued on page 3)

AUSTRIAN REFUGEE AID:

FOUR BILLION SCHILLINGS SINCE 1945

At the recent Geneva session of the executive committee for the program of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the chairman of the Austrian delegation, Ambassador Dr. Wodak, reported in detail on the efforts of the Austrian government to move refugees out of camps and into improved environments. Such intensified efforts were undertaken as part of the special work done during World Refugee Year.

The Austrian program provides for the construction of 3,100 apartments for refugees. Construction is to be completed by the end of 1962, by which time all public refugee camps are expected to be closed. The first 500 apartments will be ready for occupancy by early 1961. Of the total cost for this project which comes to roughly 340 million schilling, Austria's share will amount for 260 million schilling. The rest comes from internationally collected funds. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Thus, 260 million schillings equal \$10 million. Ed.)

Ambassador Wodak pointed out that Austria was undertaking this great financial sacrifice in order to help fully to eliminate the terrible camp system and that the money expended for this purpose was in addition to Austria's normal annual refugee budget of 100 million schilling, or \$3.5 million. In this connection, he recalled that Austria had spent altogether about four billion schillings in its care for the hundreds of thousands of refugees which had streamed over its borders since 1945.

Of these many refugees, about 350,000 became Austrian citizens, and an even larger number emigrated through the cooperation of the free world, he said. At the present time, 50,000 refugees, 9,000 of them Hungarians were still in Austria, the ambassador said.

AUSTRIA'S 1961 BUDGET

The projected 1961 Budget envisages ordinary expenditures in the amount of 45.10 billion schillings, while provision is made in the extraordinary budget for an additional outlay of 2.28 billion schillings. Estimated receipts, on the other hand, are 44.79 billion schillings, involving an overall deficit of 2.58. This exceeds the 1960 deficit by 1.47 billion schillings. The 10% increase in expenditures budgeted for 1961 is, however, by no means spectacular since between 1955 and 1958 budgetary expenditures as a rule registered annual rises in excess of 10%.

AMERICAN PRESS COMMENTS SOUTH TYROL QUESTION

(In connection with the recent debate on the South Tyrol Question before the General Assembly of the United Nations, Dr. Frederick F. Fletcher published an article "South Tyrol belongs with Austria" in the California "Woodland Democrat". The following are excerpts from this article.)

"For more than 1000 years Tyrol has been an ethnical, political, cultural and economic entity. Its entire population, until a 16th century influx of Italian-speaking people into the regions around the Garda Lake has been of pure German stock. In 1809, the world took notice, when the Tyroleans rose up in arms against the imperialism of Napoleon to defend their freedom. A little more than 100 years later, Tyrol had to defend itself again against a new imperialism, that of Italy.

The Italians strove to tear Tyrol apart, far beyond the territory inhabited by an Italian-speaking population in order to extend their influence in Central Europe and the Danubian countries. Due to the chaotic conditions existing after 1918, Italy succeeded in her aims and the entire German-speaking southern half of Tyrol was conceded to Italy at the peace treaty of St. Germain.

President Wilson expressed grave doubts as to the justice of this act but his doubts were set at rest by clever tactics of Italian politicians, who assured him that South Tyrol would be given complete autonomy. Nothing of that sort ever happened. Quite the opposite: South Tyrol, whose inhabitants passionately resented their fate, because the object of a policy of italianization which, under Fascist rule, was furthered by inhuman measures: all Tyrolean officials and employees were dismissed; teaching of the native language in schools was forbidden and it was not permitted to use the native German language in transacting public business. After the collapse of the Mussolini regime, the unanimous demand by the South Tyrolese for self-determination was again denied by the Paris peace conference of 1946.

The justice of the South Tyrolean wish was well understood, but international power politics prevented its fulfillment. In an agreement with Austria, however, Italy pledged herself to grant South Tyrol administrative and law-giving autonomy. Italy circumvented this agreement by uniting South Tyrol with the neighboring purely Italian province of Trent, thus assuring an Italian majority in that region. Thus it was not South Tyrol, but Northern Italy which enjoys the autonomy which was solemnly promised the South Tyrolean in Paris. For the past twelve years, the representatives of the people of South Tyrol and the Austrian Government have in vain tried to induce Italy to fulfill a given pledge. When all negotiations proved futile, the appeal to the United Nations followed.

What the South Tyrolean actually want? They wish to live their life in accordance with their own customs and traditions, and they do not wish that for themselves only, but for all people, their Italian neighbors included. For more than 1,000 years the Tyrolean have worked to turn a wilderness of rock and swamp into a beautiful garden, a treasure

grove of highest culture. Bozen and Meran, these two cities alone have a cultural history equal to that of Florence. Walter von der Vogelweide, the great poet of the 13th century, was born at Bozen.

A few years after my 1933 return from Europe, where I spent six years in government service, I summed up my observations in relation to future events. In my article I predicted Hitler's course, including a paragraph which categorically, stated that Hitler would sacrifice South Tyrol, (he did not claim South Tyrol as he did the Sudetenland) in order to keep his partner in crime, Mussolini, at his side. Not one of the many service magazines to which I offered my article dared to publish it. Finally, after the catastrophe had happened, "The Quartermaster Review" published extracts, to point out that I had lifted the curtain of the future.

I said then that a great injustice would happen which would cause repercussions decades later. I was not alone in that opinion: Many great politicians and statesmen, including Georges Clemenceau, Lord Robert Cecil, Lord Vansittart, Winston Churchill and many others expressed similar opinions. Woodrow Wilson wrote in his memoirs: "The South Tyrolese are a sturdy people and I do not doubt that they themselves will prove capable of altering the faulty decision made at the Paris Peace Conference." Senator Vandenberg, when reporting on the peace treaty with Italy to the Senate in 1946 said: "The territory of South Tyrol remains under Italian sovereignty. This is, from an ethnical standpoint, the least acceptable decision because the region is preponderously Austrian!"

If the United Nations General assembly weighs the facts and is actuated by the principle of self-determination of small nations, it can come only to one decision: South Tyrol must be returned to Austria, of which it has been a part for over 1,000 years.

AUSTRIA'S STEEL PRODUCTION

Austria's crude steel output in the first 9 months of 1960 reached 2.36 million tons, which was 30% above the first 3 quarters of 1959 (1.82 million tons). The share of L-D (oxygen-blast process) steel in the total production rose to 56% during the first 8 months of the current year. Pig iron production at 1.66 million tons in the first 9 months of 1960 was nearly 23% higher than during the same period of last year.

The production of rolled steel products was 1.55 million tons, compared to 1.25 million tons in the first 9 months of 1959. Exports at 800,000 tons were about 140,000 tons higher than in the corresponding period of last year. Of exported rolled steel products, 720,000 tons were made up of merchant steel and about 80,000 tons of fine steel. Orders received for merchant steel rose from 550,000 tons at the beginning of 1960 to 610,000 tons at the beginning of October 1960. While export orders have registered only a very slight increase, domestic orders jumped from 313,000 to 372,000 tons.

WORLD FORUM URGED ON MONETARY POLICIES

Proposal of an international forum to co-ordinate global monetary policies as a method for easing economic tensions highlighted the New York opening session of the three-day National Foreign Trade Convention.

The broad plan was outlined to more than 2,000 United States and foreign business men, bankers and government officials by Dr. Reinhard Kamitz, president of the Austrian National Bank, whose prepared speech was read to the meeting by Dr. Wilfried Platzer, Austrian Ambassador to the United States.

Dr. Kamitz emphasized that such a world forum could not be expected to bring about "an absolutely uniform monetary policy," but at the very least would generate an international fiscal climate based upon knowledge of the latest short-term developments and policy matters and which would serve as vital guideposts for decisions by monetary and financial authorities of the world.

"I am convinced," Dr. Kamitz said, "that — competent participants provided — some global and common opinion could be formed on trends as well as what needs to be done to influence them. It goes without saying that by more precise expectation for the chances of exports, by better knowledge of the future employment situation and by more accurate forecasts of the flows of private and public funds, a more realistic basis could be found for monetary policies."

The Austrian official noted, however, that "the optimum result one could desire from the suggested co-operation would be one that might arrive at common procedures with regard to the international situation." He added "that this does not mean that the choice of instruments for such a policy would have to be determined by the international forum. The way in which things have to be done would be left to the specific countries."

Dr. Kamitz concluded his plan by reporting that the International Monetary Fund is today "the best forum for the exchange of views on monetary developments" but he urged the Fund to "extend its activities by cultivating consultations and presenting itself as the center for monetary co-ordination."

U.S. Gold Outflow no Alarm Cause

Earlier, in reviewing international monetary problems since World War II, Dr. Kamitz expressed little concern for the adverse balance of payments and loss of gold in the United States.

As long as there is confidence in the dollar," he said, "and as long as central bankers all over the world can be sure that they will not suffer any disastrous damages from their dollar investments, one should not look at the gold outflow in the way a rabbit looks at a rattlesnake."

Conversely, he continued, "Confidence in the dollar in turn depends at least as much on the fiscal and monetary policy of this country as on the amount of gold in your banks."

Aid Programs

"Aid programs" for underdeveloped nations have been a major factor in the drain upon U.S. reserves. Dr. Kamitz

says on this: "From the point of view of functional financing, I am inclined to dispute the capital character of these payments. In most cases this aid will not give any financial returns.

He feels confident, however, that the Western European nations could and would make an increased contribution to the aid being funneled to the underdeveloped nations. Such an increased effort by the European nations, whose own recovery was underwritten by the Marshall Plan, will ease some of the strains on the United States' payment position.

Austria's Foreign Aid Program

Dr. Kamitz, in this connection, points out that at the beginning of the year he was in the Austrian cabinet which launched Austria's own foreign aid program.

The first step was the credit of \$20 million for 1960 to India, with the promise of an equal sum to be made available to the New Delhi Government in each of the next four years. In addition, Austrian negotiators have been in contact with a number of other African and Asian nations in order to extend the benefits of the "Kamitz Plan."

Yugoslavia (Continued from page 1)

of Yugoslav legal owners which had been brought to Austria during World War II on the basis of different transactions and consisting of a parcel of stocks and deposits of Yugoslav financial institutions. In this connection, the question of the restitution of social insurance payments made by Yugoslav forced labor which was in Austria during the war, was also solved.

Both parties have declared with satisfaction that the mutual exchange of goods has considerably increased. However, agreement exists that further expansion of mutual economic relations appears desirable and possible. In this connection, the question of a further increase of goods exchanges between the two countries as well as the possibilities of promoting industrial cooperation in the two states as well as in third markets were considered. Both parties have agreed that such cooperation was in the interest of both economies and thus should be promoted to the furthest possible degree by the competent authorities.

During the talks, the two ministers — in consideration of the traditional cultural relations — have expressed the desire for further expansion of cultural cooperation.

Furthermore, complete understanding with regard to the treatment of the Yugoslav minority in Austria has been reached. Ready to fulfil her obligation, as stipulated in Article 7 of the State Treaty, Austria will anew contact the representatives of the Yugoslav minority in order to bring about a solution satisfactory to all parties concerned.

Raab to Visit Belgrade

During his stay in Vienna, Secretary of State Popovic transmitted to Chancellor Raab and Vice Chancellor Dr. Pittermann invitations to visit the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia. The invitations were readily accepted. The date will be agreed on through diplomatic channels.

AUSTRIA'S TRADE WITH THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Imports from the nations of North, South and Central America -- generally referred to as the Western Hemisphere -- have decreased between 1957 and 1959 by 27.9% or from 4,620,000,000 schillings to 3,330,000,000 schillings. (About 26 schillings equal one dollar. Ed.) However, the current trend, based on figures between January and July, 1960, is toward a considerable increase this year. This is particularly true with regard to imports from the United States.

U.S. Imports

U.S. shipments of coal, corn, cotton and wheat decreased during the past two years from 2,408,500,000 schillings to 849,000,000 schillings, or by 64.8%. During the same period, the decrease affected volume as well as value with coal shipments down from 1,960,000 tons to 760,000 tons, corn from 297,481 tons to 166,081 tons and wheat from 60,488 to 17,624 tons. On the other hand, goods exchange with the United States following the unavoidable setback of the recession year of 1958 is on the increase in imports of scrap metals and ores. A record high in these imports is to be expected during the coming year because of the constantly growing needs of Austrian heavy industry. A similar trend is noticeable in the import of industrial machinery which currently leads the list.

While U.S. participation in Austria's imports from the Western Hemisphere fell from 79.1% to 60.9%, it still has remained of extraordinary importance. Between January and July, 1960, the U.S. accounted for 7.2% of Austria's total imports.

Trade with other American States

Serious consideration needs also be given to the other American nations. The picture shows a strong drop of shipments from Cuba, a weak position in trade with Uruguay and stable imports from Brazil. A trend toward increased imports is noticeable in the trade with Argentina, Ecuador, Peru and Mexico. Canada is gaining as top shipper of wheat, nickel and rubber. Here Surinam must also be mentioned as an emergency source of bauxite. In spite of some fluctuations in the economic situation, the Western Hemisphere remains the prime source of raw materials. Its participation in Austria's total imports breaks down as follows: rubber, 17.7%; barley, 22.2%; coal, 24.6%; nickel, 36.6%; tobacco, 38.6%; cotton, 60%; corn, 60.8%; wheat, 74.9%; coffee, 81.8%; and sugar, 90.5%. While the United States, Canada, Argentina and Brazil offer a variety of essential goods, the other countries are rather limited to certain specialized products: Chile, vegetables; Uruguay, wool; Venezuela, cocoa; Ecuador and Columbia, fruit; Peru, Mexico and Nicaragua, cotton; Costa Rica, Guatemala and El Salvador, coffee.

Austrian Exports Gain

The big surprise in Austria's foreign trade picture today is the increase by leaps and bounds in exports to countries of the Western Hemisphere. During the years from 1957 to 1959, Austria's total exports dropped by 1.1% from 25,440,000,000 schillings to 25,160,000,000 schillings. But during these very years and despite the difficulties in international trade, Austrian exports to the Western Hemisphere

IMPORTS FROM THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Countries of Origin	1957	1958	1959	1960
	(Jan.-Dec.)		(Jan-Jul)	
	(All figures in million schill.)			
Total Imports	4,623	3,821	3,334	2,346
United States	3,659	2,818	2,032	1,496
Canada	242	247	437	195
Argentina	195	254	249	283
Brazil	181	173	172	105
Cuba	112	56	30	2
Uruguay	83	45	47	19
Ecuador	45	69	95	70
Peru	16	27	76	63
Mexico	14	30	69	22
Colombia	12	12	24	23
Surinam	7	---	---	8
Products				
Coal	1,330	904	428	
Corn	593	328	316	
Cotton	375	376	253	
Wheat	336	287	372	
Coffee	201	201	199	
Industrial Machinery (incl. Metal Working)	111	137	200	
Tobacco	105	121	62	
Fruit (fresh)	89	163	132	
Ores	86	93	148	
Wool	84	45	50	
Sugar	73	35	25	
Rubber	48	56	54	
Nickel	35	33	52	
Passenger Automobiles	20	17	15	
Barley	---	2	69	
Imports from U.S.				
Coal	1,330	904	428	227
Corn	588	303	273	110
Cotton	359	336	112	115
Wheat	132	113	36	20
Scrap and Ores	124	79	140	140
Industrial Machinery	111	136	198	267
Tobacco & Tobacco Goods	92	122	64	19
Electrical Appliances	81	68	44	43
Rubber	20	17	24	19
Passenger Automobiles	20	17	15	14

rose by 18.3% to 2,398,800,000 schillings and to the United States alone by even 50.8% to 1,484,100,000 schillings.

This development appears to continue with certain fluctuations. While reverses threaten in Argentina, Colombia and Cuba, exports to Canada, Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Peru and Uruguay seem favorable. After the depression had been overcome, exports of these types of goods remained stable: iron, steel, electrical appliances and bicycles. On the other hand, export sales of metal goods, clothing and

EXPORTS TO THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

Countries of Destination 1957 1958 1959 1960
 (Jan. - Dec.) (Jan-Jul)

(All figures in million schillings.)

Total Exports	2,027	2,123	2,399	1,259
United States	984	1,177	1,484	754
Argentina	379	363	300	118
Venezuela	138	134	134	63
Canada	107	129	158	100
Brazil	98	82	62	45
Mexico	70	58	80	43
Chile	53	27	25	34
Colombia	38	33	37	15
Cuba	38	18	20	5
Peru	34	29	29	21
Uruguay	30	15	13	12

Products

Glass, Glassware	244	328	337	
Metal Goods	229	239	170	
Iron, Steel	202	169	203	
Clothing	167	119	132	
Paper, Cardboard	158	156	116	
Cloth	120	123	138	
Industrial Machinery	112	146	182	
Electrical Appliances	68	60	68	
Artificial Fibers	61	118	145	
Yarns	83	47	60	
Bicycles	47	40	46	
Aluminum	46	94	200	
Motorcycle, incl. Bicycles w. auxiliary motors	44	66	37	
Instruments	37	54	63	
Costume Jewelry	29	26	64	

Export to U.S.

Glass, Glassware	219	289	317	134
Clothing	145	97	107	61
Metal Goods	96	127	102	59
Cloth	51	50	58	33
Motorcycles	38	49	24	30
Electrical Appliances	37	34	32	24
Industrial Machinery	31	32	45	50
Costume Jewelry	18	15	42	24
Magnesite (without brick or plate)	16	27	62	25
Aluminum	2	57	173	56

yarns dropped. Besides cloth which regained some of its losses, an upward trend (as against 1957) has been observed in glass products (38.1%), medical and scientific instruments (70.3%), costume jewelry (120.7%), and aluminum. Exports of aluminum to the Western Hemisphere rose from 46 million schillings to 200 million schillings, and to the United States alone from 96 tons to 12,776 tons at a value of 172.7 million schillings. The index thus shows

which type of merchandise might find new long-term markets in North, Central and South America.

Change in Merchandise

Austrian exports to the Western Hemisphere are no longer topped by the traditional combination of iron, steel and paper but by glass products, aluminum, artificial fibers, textiles and industrial machinery. The same development can be observed in exports to the United States which in 1957 purchased only 4,287 tons of artificial fibers worth 59 million schillings while last year it bought 10,617 tons at a value of 139.7 million schillings.

It should also be mentioned that last year, Austria exported to the United States 77,107 bicycles worth 44.6 million schillings, accounting for 93.6% of the total Austrian bicycle production.

Distribution of Exports

An astonishing development appeared in the broad distribution of exports according to country and product grouping. Naturally enough, the large nations -- Canada, Mexico, Argentina and Brazil -- and even such smaller ones as Chile, Colombia and Venezuela, account for a variety of Austrian products, but the other nations were not neglected. The largest distribution was experienced -- aside from iron, steel, metal goods and electrical appliances -- by paper which somehow seems remarkable. Thus Argentina purchased Austrian paper worth 33 million schillings, Mexico 25 million and Colombia 19.3 million. It would seem as though all bureaucratic regimes ordered their official stationery in Vienna. Further markets which appear to be in the initial stages of development embrace costume jewelry and industrial machinery. Austrian cloth goes to 27 nations in the Americas. And, perhaps curiously, Austria's best client for drugs is Brazil, relatively much clothing is imported by the British West Indies, and Venezuela is a dependable customer of large quantities of yarns. Perhaps as a consequence of the one-time occupation regime, the U.S. imported 26 million schillings worth of "confectionery without cocoa additives."

AUSTRIA'S SKI EXPORT

Austria exports a total of some 55 million schillings' worth of skis each year. Of this, 20 million schillings' worth of skis is exported to EEC countries. EFTA countries account for 11 million schillings, the United States and Canada for 21 million schillings' worth of skis each year. Raw materials used in ski production are ash and hickory. Ash is available in Austria, while hickory is imported from the USA.

AUSTRIA REFORESTS

Austria has invested more than \$1,000,000 in its forest industry in the past 10 years. The sum has been used to reforest more than 543,000 acres and protect forests against damage by avalanches, mountain torrents, wind, and insects.

AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

may be quoted freely.

Source need not be given.

Libraries, Museums and Archives in Austria

By JOSEF STUMMVOLL *



Austria is a land of ancient culture. Even in pre-historic times Hallstatt, which lies in the midst of the Austrian Alps, was a cultural center of such importance that its name has been used by modern scholars to designate an entire era. Most of the present Austrian territory belonged for centuries to the Roman Empire as attested by many archeological discoveries. Starting in the seventh century, following the great migration of tribes, the first bearers of culture were Irish and Anglo-Saxon monks based at St. Peter's Benedictine Monastery in Salzburg, who disseminated Christianity and a high intellectual culture throughout the land. A library was founded at St. Peter's as early as about the year 700. For a long time the monastery libraries were of utmost importance, among them Melk, Admont and Klosterneuburg. Their final flowering took place in the eighteenth century when magnificent reading rooms were included in the numerous new monastery buildings which were then erected. Almost all of the great monastery libraries are still in existence.

In addition to the monasteries, the special patrons of culture were the Habsburgs archdukes and emperors in the late Middle Ages. Rudolf IV and Albrecht III in the fourteenth century are especially worthy of mention. The former founded the university in Vienna in 1365, to which a library was soon attached. Gradually a large library developed out of the books belonging to the Habsburgs, and it became the nucleus of the Imperial Library, though no actual date can be given for its founding.

Maximilian I (1493-1519) not only collected manuscripts but he also promoted the rising art of printing and had books made which even today are among the unsurpassed master-

pieces of the printer's art. The name of an imperial librarian first appears in the sixteenth century. A separate library building was erected according to plans drawn up by Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach between 1723 and 1726 to house the ever expanding imperial book collection. The great hall is widely considered to be the most beautiful baroque reading room in the world. It contains the oldest treasures of today's Nationalbibliothek as the former Hofbibliothek has been called since 1920. The Austrian National Library is the most important and the largest library in Austria, and it includes seven collections: printed material, manuscripts, music, maps, papyri, portrait and picture archives, and a theater collection.

Aside from its valuable possessions, the National Library is important as a center for the training of professional library personnel. It has assumed responsibility for the following services: an Austrian national bibliography, international book exchange facilities, inter-library loans, and a reference service with other Austrian libraries. Furthermore, it houses the headquarters for the Union List of Austrian Periodicals, as well as the Board of Examiners for librarians for Austrian federal libraries, and the Commission for Library Science.

There are many other learned libraries in Austria. Moreover, each of the three universities, in Vienna, Graz and Innsbruck, has its own comprehensive library as well as individual department libraries. Indeed, the Vienna University library's collection of printed books is almost as large as that of the National Library. Other institutions of higher learning also have their own libraries, and in the provincial capitals which have no university there are general scientific libraries open to the public. Besides all these, there are some eight hundred smaller, specialized scientific libraries connected with museums, provincial archives, research institutes, scientific societies, etc., which are also open to the public.

In our larger cities the public libraries are especially well developed, but even in rural areas there are many com-



The Austrian National Library building, designed by Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach.

* Dr. Josef Stummvoll, Director General of the Austrian National Library in Vienna, is at present director of the United Nations Library in New York.

munity and parish libraries which are connected with one another through the Verband der Volksbuecherelen. There are over 2000 of them and their combined circulation figure last year was an astonishing 4,200,000.

The most important Austrian museums, like the National Library, had their origins in the private collections of the House of Habsburg. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries "Art and Marvel Chambers" were established, the forerunners of today's museums. The collection of paintings in the Kunsthistorisches Museum goes back primarily to Archduke Leopold Wilhelm who spent the years 1646 to 1656 as governor in the Netherlands. He acquired a large number of fine paintings by the Dutch masters, which are now among the museum's most highly prized treasures. The museums as we know them today were established during the nineteenth century, and the present buildings for the art and natural history collections were built between 1872 and 1881 when the city of Vienna was enlarged. The art museum and adjacent buildings house collections of Egyptian and Oriental objects, classical art, galleries of paintings, sculpture and applied art, a collection of old musical instruments, ecclesiastical treasures, etc. The nucleus of the natural history museum was the collection of Emperor Francis I, but since 1848 it has been greatly enhanced by field expeditions.

Other public collections which deserve mention are the Museum of Ethnology, the Museum of Military History, the Staatliche Graphische Sammlung Albertina, the Museum for Applied Art, the Austrian Gallery, the Technical Museum.

Besides the federal museums there are also numerous provincial museums, which are managed by the local governments and often fulfill valuable scientific assignments. *Re-Museum of Fine Arts, Vienna*



Austrian National Library, Vienna

cently the new building for the Historical Museum of the City of Vienna was completed, and its rich collections now show to best advantage. There are the *Heimatsmuseen* of a more local character, whose objects and documents of natural history or local culture are particularly stimulating for tourists who happen to be staying in the area for a short time. There are also castles, manor houses, monasteries and convents which often date from the Middle Ages and which are well worth a visit not only for their architecture but also for the objects on display.

Since Vienna has been the center of government for a large empire since the sixteenth century, there was need for the establishment of archives. In 1556 the Imperial Council of War established a Register from which later a war archive developed. In 1578 the Hofkammerarchiv was founded mainly to preserve fiscal documents; its director from 1832 to 1856 was Franz Grillparzer, the famous Austrian writer. Empress Maria Theresia founded the Haus-Hof- und Staatsarchiv in 1749, which contains documents important for political history. These archives were combined with the Allgemeine Verwaltungserchiv in 1945 to make up the Austrian State Archives. There are many smaller archives in local centers of government and denominational groups.

To give a purely quantitative idea of the manifold Austrian libraries, museums, and archives, let me mention only that the list of these centers of culture in the *Jahrbuch der oesterreichischen Wissenschaft* covers more than 370 pages! In accordance with the distribution of the population, and the seat of government in Austria the most important of these are centralized in Vienna.



AUSTRIA MARKS STAMP DAY WITH SPECIAL ISSUE

The Austrian Postal Administration recently announced the issue of a commemorative stamp to mark this year's Day of the Postage Stamp, an annual event in postal history for some time past.

The 1960 commemorative depicts a proof impression made from the original plate during the engraving process. The 3 schilling plus 70 groschen-semi-postal shows examination by magnifying glass of a 3.50 schilling definitive of the hunting series.

The picture is, in effect, a proof showing the engraver how far shading and definition have developed in the engraving process.

SHIP "WIENERTOR" LAUNCHED

The second ocean-going freighter of the United Austrian Steel and Iron Works (VOeEST), the "Wienertor" was launched late in November.

More than 3,000 tons of marine construction metals, made by VOeEST's rolling mills, was used in the construction of the ship which was wholly made from L-D steel. (L-D steel is the product of the oxygen-blower system originated by Austrian engineers and exclusively used by VOeEST license).

Together with the Linzertor which has been in service

since March, 1959, United Austrian Steel now owns two ocean going vessels which can supply the firm with about 350,000 tons of coal annually and thus fulfill an important transportation task for Austria's largest steel works.

During the 18 months of its run, the Linzertor crossed the Atlantic 32 times, carrying 207 tons of coal to Europe and 8,225 automobiles to America. The Wienertor which will be put in service next January, will be able on a single trip to transport 16,000 tons of coal (roughly 20 freight cars full) from America and about 1,100 passenger cars on the return journey. VOeEST already concluded a five-year contract for the transportation of automobiles with the Volkswagen firm.

Two more ocean-going vessels are already in the planning stage. When completed, VOeEST's four freighters will have a total carrying capacity of 600,000 tons of coal per year and thus become greatly independent of the international transport market. United Austrian Steel is particularly interested in securing uninterrupted coal deliveries from the United States for its plants in Linz.

The motor vessel Wienertor is 159 meters long, has a maximum height of 14 meters and top depth of 9.76 meters. (One meter equals 39.37 inches. Ed.) The ship has four holds filled through six openings. For the transport of automobiles, the Wienertor is equipped with additional decks permitting shipment of up to 1,300 cars per trip. The vessel also has special equipment to change the holds for use as grain carriers. The ship's crew numbers 36 and there is room aboard for 12 passengers. Six of these places are reserved for VOeEST employees.

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